

Section II

Non-Housing Community Development Programs and Services

The following sections provide information on City community development programs and services proposed for City FY 2007 (including economic development activities and actions to reduce poverty), which will serve low-and moderate-income persons, other target groups addressed in this document or persons in low-income areas.

■ II.A Public Service Needs

Employment and Training

Program/Activity: *Employment Services*

Responsible Entity(ies): City of Alexandria DHS

Consolidated Plan Target Group or Area: Consumers will include Low- and Moderate-Income Households

Program/Activity Description: Includes *JobLink*, the City's One Stop Center for Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) service delivery, which among other programs offers Adult and Dislocated Worker Assistance, Food Stamp Employment and Training program, Older Worker Assistance, Refugee Assistance, the Community Digital Divide Initiative (CDDI) to help underserved communities gain low-or no-cost access to computers and to *JobLink* networks through the Internet; the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW), which provides employment counseling/placement services, day care, needs assessments, support payments and other resources to remove barriers to employment for TANF recipients; the TeensWork! Youth Employment Program, which will endeavor to place 120 youth in public and private non-profit work sites during the summer and 150 youth in unsubsidized employment and job readiness activities; a federally-funded WIA effort focusing on employment readiness for 50 hard-to-serve youth receiving year-round services; and the EAGLES program which prepares ex-offenders for finding, maintaining and advancing in employment.

Projected Funding for City FY 2007 (By Source): Total - \$3,223,869 [Federal - \$991,718, State- \$461,471; Local/General Funds- \$1,770,677]

Service Objective: Persons - 5,200

Performance Measurement: Objective: Creating Economic Opportunities; Outcome: Sustainability

■ II.B. Economic Development

Program/Activity: *Revitalization of Mt. Vernon Avenue and Northern Rt. 1 Corridor and AEDP Facade Improvement Grant Program*

Responsible Entity(ies): Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP) and City of Alexandria

Consolidated Plan Target Group or Area: Citywide. Currently Mt. Vernon Ave. and Northern Route 1 (within Potomac West Neighborhood Strategy Area)

Program/Activity Description: Encourages revitalization to provide employment and commercial opportunities. This area is part of the City's State Enterprise Zone, where businesses can benefit from employment training/placement services, technical assistance, small business financing opportunities, state tax credits and grants. The City and AEDP will also continue to work with residents and businesses in Potomac West to develop a strategy for improving business activity and the business climate along the Mount Vernon Avenue corridor. While a long-range plan for the redevelopment of several sites in this area has been adopted, private investment in the area is not immediately expected due to market conditions and other factors. In the interim, the City is developing a strategy to help stabilize existing businesses and to strengthen the business environment in a manner that will be in concert with the community's long-term vision and will help in the marketability of the area.

Projected Funding for City FY 2007 (By Source): TOTAL -\$620,000 [City General Fund - \$500,000 for Arlandria; \$20,000 - Northern Rt. 1 Corridor; Alexandria Industry Development Authority - \$100,000 for AEDP to continue efforts to attract, expand and retain business opportunities in the City, including the Enterprise Zone). Funding for the Facade Improvement Program is uncertain, with \$100,000 desired from multiple sources.

Service Objective: In the Enterprise Zone, increase employment, stabilize the commercial tax base, increase property values an average of five percent annually and increase the number of retail or local service establishments by two locations per year along Mt. Vernon Avenue

Performance Measurement: Objective: Suitable Living Environment, Creating Economic Opportunity; Outcome: Sustainability

Program/Activity: *Micrenterprise Loan Program*

Responsible Entity(ies): ECDC Enterprise Development Group

Consolidated Plan Target Group or Area: Small businesses owned by low-and moderate income, minority and women entrepreneurs located in underserved areas.

Program/Activity Description: Provides loans to small businesses in the City of Alexandria that do not yet qualify for conventional loans.

Projected Funding for City FY 2007 (By Source): No new City expenditures are anticipated for this program, but a City allocation of CDBG funds made in a prior year continues to support the through a loan loss reserve.

Service Objective: 15 loans completed to small businesses and owned by low and moderate persons.

Performance Measurement: Objective: Creating Economic Opportunity; Outcome: Sustainability

The City also provides training and services to enable low-income Alexandrians obtain jobs. (see “Employment and Training” in Section II.A.)

■ II.C. Other Community Development Activities

Program/Activity: Code Enforcement and Blight Abatement

Responsible Entity(ies): City of Alexandria Code Enforcement Bureau

Consolidated Plan Target Group or Low-Income Area: Citywide, including block groups with highest percentage of low/mod persons

Program/Activity Description: Includes continued monitoring of properties throughout the City for compliance with building, fire and maintenance codes; and continued implementation of the Spot Blight Abatement program through which the City works with property owners to correct conditions that have caused their properties to be deemed detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the community or, if necessary, intervenes to abate the violations with associated costs placed as a lien against the property or recouped from the sale of the property. While City Council voted in November 2003 to discontinue the Blighting Influences Program pending removal of a final six properties from this program’s monitoring list, it is expected that vacant houses that might become blighted properties in the Potomac West NSA, the Potomac East Conservation District and the Southwest Quadrant Rehabilitation District (within Potomac East NSA), which were formerly monitored under this program, will continue to be addressed by the Spot Blight Abatement program.

Projected Funding for City FY 2007 (By Source): The City’s estimated cost to provide these services in the City target areas identified above is between \$42,200 and \$47,500 per year.

Service Objective: Monitor and abate code issues and blighting influences

Performance Measurement: Objective: Suitable Living Environment; Outcome: Sustainability

Low- and moderate-income owner-occupants of residential units may qualify for assistance under the City’s Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program to implement historic preservation and/or energy efficiency improvements (for more information on the Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program, see Section I.B.).